**Silkwood High School Advisor**

In 2014, Silkwood High School started its journey as a Big Picture Academy as part of the Big Picture Australia education network -<http://www.bigpicture.org.au/> This educational framework enables students’ learning to be highly personalised with an individual learning plan (ILP) developed for each student, which meets core curriculum expectations and fuses these with individual interests, passions and needs.

Classes are small by design and a large portion of student-directed learning time is dedicated to authentic project based and inquiry learning opportunities, facilitated both in the classroom and in the wider community.

**MORE DETAIL:**

Big Picture Learning believes that schools must be personalised and small by design, delivering high quality learning experiences, with each individual in mind.  Each student’s project and therefore individual learning plan should grow out of his or her unique needs, interests, and passions. Students, their families, teaching team and mentors are all active participants in the authentic design, process, progress, delivery and assessment of each individual’s learning. Classes must be small enough to encourage the development of a community of learners, and to allow for each student to be known well by at least one adult.

Advisors and staff members are more than classroom teachers; they are an integral part of an environment that allows students the freedom to dream, conceptualise, develop skills and opportunities for creative application, with the support and motivation of inspiring adults. As a Big Picture Learning staff member, your job is to create a safe, trusting, and collaborative learning environment that enables students to learn through school and community experiences and grow as mature, competent, knowledgeable, and responsible individuals. Advisors nurture their students to become life-long learners. They challenge them to explore their interests, take risks and expand their knowledge and opportunities through what they are passionate about, whilst growing their awareness of successes, challenges and areas for improvement in order to progress. Students gain confidence and increase their independence, because they have a voice in their education and how they want to learn. Therefore, a key component of the Advisor’s job is to co-create a learning plan that encompasses the student’s passions and also stands as an educationally sound document.

**Advisor duties:**

* Develop and extend upon learning modules for core curriculum learning areas including Maths, English, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, The Arts, Technologies, Health and Physical Education, Work Studies.
* Create and organise learning resources and flexible learning environments to facilitate positive and inclusive learning experiences.
* Have necessary training and skills to facilitate learning programs using interactive information technologies.
* Facilitate individual learning plan meetings with each student, their family and mentors.
* Implement, by instruction, action and reflection, the Big Picture philosophy of education.
* Forecast and review the educational needs of each student based on data regarding their interests, passions, skills and abilities.
* Help each student identify student project focus areas, encourage and support during the process.
* Establish clear learning intentions/objectives for each student; including supporting students in them sourcing additional educational services if required.
* Employ a variety of ‘best practice’ learning for engagement techniques in pursuit of meeting individual learning goals.
* Provide regular constructive and meaningful feedback and feed forward to students regarding their learning progress.
* Coordinate and support students to take part in school-wide festivals, events and projects as both leaders and community participants.
* Facilitate and extend student-learning opportunities through engaging expert service providers and incursions onsite; and outside of the school campus via camps, workshops, community events, excursions, service learning and leadership initiatives.
* Identify ‘leaving to learn’ opportunities and internships for students to support their project work and individual learning plan goals.
* Facilitate internship searches through phone calls, shadow days and informational interviews to ensure that each student has an internship appropriate to their needs.
* Monitor student internships through administrative and overview processes including site-visits, phone calls, and mentor meetings as required.
* Make provisions to be available to students and parents for education-related purposes outside of the school day when necessary.
* Report on each student’s educational and social progress in detail through formative and summative assessment means including report cards, parent communication, weekly student meetings, Individual Learning Plan updates and student-led learning exhibitions.
* Maintain complete and factual records on each student as required by school and legislative requirements.
* Attend weekly staff meetings (whole school and Syndicate).
* Work with leaders for coaching, mentoring and training purposes to improve and enhance student engagement and learning opportunities and develop strategies for greater progress.
* Have thorough knowledge and understanding of the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* & participate in review and appraisal processes to keep these updated.

**Required Skills and Experience:**

* Solid knowledge of all High School teaching subjects and specialty in specific areas to complement and balance the teaching team’s skill database.
* Solid knowledge of pedagogical theories, perspectives and developments within education as endorsed by Silkwood.
* Excellent classroom management skills.
* Proven strong relationship building skills.
* Strong oral, verbal and written communication skills - specifically clarity in expression of learning purpose.
* IT literate including Office 365 and LMS.
* Demonstrate professional behaviour and a commitment to excellence in learning innovation.
* Demonstrate growth mindset and willingness to engage in The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People as a tool for personal and professional development.

**Desired Skills and Experience:**

* Bachelors Degree, Masters Degree preferred
* Registration with the QCT
* Excellent problem-solving skills / solutions-focused perspectives
* Organisational skills, time management
* Resilience, ability to improvise and work through uncertainties
* A sense of humour
* Willingness to work within a non-traditional school schedule and organisational structure that meets the needs of student-learning first
* Possession of a valid driver’s license

For further details contact:

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